GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4851
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2001
CUSTOMS DUTY ON SODA ASH
Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has decided recently to reduce the customs duty on imported soda ash from 35 to 20 percent; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the same and its impact on soda ash manufacturers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL)

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) The rate of customs duty on soda ash was reduced during the Budget for the year 2001-02 taking into account factors such as the domestic demand-supply position, comparative prices of indigenous and imported soda ash and the status and composition of the domestic manufacturing and user industries. No clear impact on soda ash manufacturers is discernible at this stage.